

From: Ronny Smith
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'll try to keep from ranting, but when it comes to this issue, that's easier said than done.

Fact: THE GOVERNMENT (for the people) told Microsoft in no uncertain terms in 1995 how they had to act to avoid BREAKING THE LAW.

Fact: They did it anyway. A judge has ruled.

Fact: Microsoft, in breaking the law, has made more money from its ILLEGAL activity than the mind can comprehend.

Fact: The settlement does NOT punish the criminal on a level equal to the profits made, and the damage done to hard working computer professionals the world over.

Fact: Criminals are doing time for offenses where one person was damaged hundreds or thousands of dollars. You have criminals at Microsoft, who ran up damages into the millions or billions, and affected the livelihood of possibly hundreds of thousands of people. Why don't they do time as part of the "settlement"??

Fact: The "proposed settlement" is basically saying, "don't break the law again". Please.

Give me a break, and THROW THE BOOK AT MICROSOFT! They should be treated with all the respect due a common CRIMINAL!

Sincerely,
Ronny Smith

PS All public comment should be scrutinized very carefully to make sure it is PUBLIC comment. Microsoft has a mighty PR team of low lives, and have been known to have financial ties to people submitting "public" comment. Just ask the LA TIMES.